

## Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 065669  
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DRAFTED BY L:RDKEARNEY:DF  
APPROVED BY L:RDKEARNEY  
EUR/NE:JPSHUMATE,JR.

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC  
TO AMEMBASSY LONDON

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, EGEN, CGEN, UK

SUBJECT: U.K.-U.S. CONVENTION ON CIVIL JUDGMENTS

REF: LONDON 4574

1. DEPARTMENT HAS SOME TWENTY-FIVE CABLES AND AIRGRAMS  
IN ITS FILES REGARDING THE CARRYING ON OF THE NEGOTIATIONS  
ON THE U.K.-U.S. CONVENTION ON RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT  
OF CIVIL JUDGMENTS SENT OR RECEIVED BY LONDON EMBASSY.

2. ARTICLE IN BUSINESS WEEK IS A MUCH SIMPLIFIED PRESENTA-  
TION OF A COMPLEX AND TECHNICAL PROBLEM, WITH CONSIDERABLE  
OVEREMPHASIS ON COMMON MARKET CONVENTION PROBLEMS, BUT  
DEPARTMENT SEES NO NEED FOR EMBASSY TO CORRECT OR AMPLIFY  
ARTICLE UNLESS ARTICLE IS CAUSING ADVERSE REACTION OF  
WHICH WE NOT AWARE.

3. CONVENTION WAS NEGOTIATED OVER A THREE-YEAR PERIOD  
WITH NEGOTIATING SESSIONS IN LONDON (1973), WASHINGTON  
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(1974), EDINBURGH (1975), WITH FINAL SESSION, AT WHICH  
DRAFT TEXT WAS INITIALLED, IN LONDON (1976). EMBASSY  
APPOINTED CONTACT OFFICER FOR LONDON SESSION IN 1973  
AND A VARIETY OF DOCUMENTS RELATING TO THE NEGOTIATIONS  
HAVE BEEN TRANSMITTED AND RECEIVED THROUGH EMBASSY.

AMBASSADOR KEARNEY DISCUSSED THE NEGOTIATIONS AT VARIOUS

TIMES WITH A NUMBER OF EMBASSY OFFICERS, INCLUDING AMBASSADOR RICHARDSON, DEPUTY CHIEF OF MISSION SPIERS, AND ECONOMIC MINISTER MILLER.

4. PROVISIONS OF CONVENTION ARE CURRENTLY BEING REVIEWED IN U.S. BY A NUMBER OF LEGAL ORGANIZATIONS INCLUDING AMERICAN BAR ASSOCIATION. RESOLUTIONS OF SUPPORT HAVE ALREADY BEEN RECEIVED FROM A NUMBER OF BAR ASSOCIATIONS. DECISION ON SIGNING AND SUBMISSION TO SENATE FOR ADVICE AND CONSENT TO RATIFICATION WILL PROBABLY BE MADE IN AUTUMN, 1977. U.K. IS PLANNING TO REVISE EXISTING LEGISLATION IN FIELD TO MEET REQUIREMENTS OF BOTH COMMON MARKET CONVENTIONS AND NEGOTIATION OF NEW AGREEMENTS WITH NON-COMMONMARKET STATES. OUR LATEST ADVICE IS THAT LEGISLATION WILL BE READY TOWARD END OF 1977. DEPARTMENT WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION YOU MAY OBTAIN REGARDING SCHEDULE FOR LEGISLATION. KARL NEWMAN, LORD CHANCELLOR'S OFFICE, WITH WHOM EMBASSY HAS DEALT BEFORE REGARDING CONVENTION, IS BEST SOURCE OF INFORMATION.

5. TO ENSURE EMBASSY RECORDS ARE COMPLETE, FILE OF BASIC DOCUMENTS ON NEGOTIATION OF THE CONVENTION IS BEING AIRPOUCHED ATTENTION OF SPIERS.  
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## Message Attributes

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